

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Currently amended) A joint prosthesis system for implantation in a patient,
2 comprising:
3 a body having a central canal extending therethrough; ~~and~~
4 a head coupled to the body;
5 a shaft coupled to the body and extending through the central canal[[,]]; and
6 a replacement shaft, wherein the shaft is interchangeable after implantation of
7 the prosthesis by removing the shaft and replacing the shaft with a the replacement shaft
8 without dislodging the body from the patient.

1 2. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the shaft is coupled to the
2 body via insertion of the shaft through an end of the central canal nearest an articular surface
3 of the prosthesis and the shaft is removed from the body by reversing the direction of
4 insertion.

1 3. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 2, wherein the shaft is coupled to the
2 body via a taper lock between the shaft and the body.

1 4. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 3, wherein the taper lock is a Morse
2 taper lock.

1 5. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the joint prosthesis is
2 configured to replace a hip joint.

1 6. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the joint prosthesis is
2 configured to replace a shoulder joint.

1 7. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the replacement shaft is an
2 intramedullary nail.

1 8. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the replacement shaft is
2 longer than the shaft.

1 9. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, further comprising an insert
2 coupled to the body and extending at least partially into the central canal.

1 10. (Original) The joint prosthesis of claim 9, wherein the insert is screwed into
2 the central canal.

1 11. (Currently amended) A modular joint prosthesis having an articular surface
2 for implantation in a patient, comprising:

3 a body stem coupled to the articular surface[[],]; and
4 ~~the stem comprising a proximal portion nearest the articular surface and a~~
5 ~~distal portion~~ a shaft coupled to the body and configured to extend into a long bone of the
6 patient;

7 wherein the shaft ~~distal portion~~ may be removed from the patient stem after
8 implantation of the prosthesis without also removing the body ~~proximal portion~~.

1 12. (Currently amended) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 11, further
2 comprising a central canal in the body ~~proximal portion~~ in which the shaft ~~distal portion~~ is
3 received.

1 13. (Currently amended) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 12, wherein the
2 shaft ~~distal portion~~ is coupled to the body ~~proximal portion~~ via insertion of the shaft ~~distal~~
3 ~~portion~~ through an end of the central canal nearest the articular surface and the shaft ~~distal~~
4 ~~portion~~ is removed from the body ~~proximal portion~~ by reversing the direction of insertion.

1 14. (Currently amended) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 13, wherein the
2 shaft ~~distal portion~~ is coupled to the body ~~proximal portion~~ via a taper lock between the shaft
3 ~~distal portion~~ and the body ~~proximal portion~~.

1 15. (Currently amended) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 12, further
2 comprising an insert coupled to the body proximal portion and extending at least partially into
3 the central canal.

1 16. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 15, wherein the insert is
2 screwed into the central canal.

1 17. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 11, wherein the joint
2 prosthesis is configured to replace a hip joint.

1 18. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis of claim 11, wherein the joint
2 prosthesis is configured to replace a shoulder joint.

1 19. (Currently amended) A method of replacing a shaft of a joint prosthesis
2 having a body, a head, and a shaft after the joint prosthesis has been implanted in a patient,
3 comprising:

4 creating an access aperture in the patient for access to the joint prosthesis;
5 removing the shaft from the patient without removing the body or the head;
6 inserting a replacement shaft into the patient;
7 coupling the replacement shaft to the body;
8 locking the replacement shaft into place in the patient; and
9 closing the access aperture.

1 20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the body has an aperture
2 configured to receive the shaft or the replacement shaft and wherein the coupling step
3 includes inserting the replacement shaft into the aperture.

1 21. (Original) The method of claim 20, further comprising coupling an insert to
2 the body, the insert extending at least partially into the aperture.

1 22. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the replacement shaft is an
2 intramedullary nail.

1 23. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the replacement shaft is longer
2 than the shaft.

1 24. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the shaft is removed with the aid
2 of a shaft removal device.

1 25. (Currently amended) A modular joint prosthesis system, comprising:
2 a body;
3 an articular surface coupled to the body;
4 a first shaft configured to be coupled to the body; and
5 a second shaft configured to be coupled to the body, wherein the second shaft
6 is used to replace the first shaft after implantation of the prosthesis into a patient without first
7 removing the body from the patient.

1 26. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the first
2 shaft is coupled to the body via insertion of the first shaft through an end of a central canal in
3 the body nearest the articular surface and the shaft is removed from the body by reversing the
4 direction of insertion.

1 27. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 26, wherein the
2 second shaft is coupled to the body via insertion of the second shaft through the end of the
3 central canal nearest the articular surface.

1 28. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the shaft
2 is coupled to the body via a taper lock between the shaft and the body.

1 29. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 28, wherein the taper
2 lock is a Morse taper lock.

1 30. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 26, further
2 comprising an insert coupled to the body.

1 31. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 30, wherein the insert
2 is screwed into the central canal.

1 32. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the joint
2 prosthesis is configured to replace a hip joint.

1 33. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the joint
2 prosthesis is configured to replace a shoulder joint.

1 34. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the
2 second shaft is an intramedullary nail.

1 35. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, wherein the
2 second shaft is longer than the first shaft.

1 36. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, further
2 comprising a shaft removal device configured to be coupled to the first shaft.

1 37. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 36, wherein the first
2 shaft includes a threaded recess and the shaft removal device includes a threaded portion
3 configured to be screwed into the threaded recess to couple the shaft removal device to the
4 first shaft.

1 38. (Original) The modular joint prosthesis system of claim 25, further
2 comprising a head coupled to the body, the head having the articular surface.

1 39. (New) The joint prosthesis of claim 38, further comprising a neck connected
2 to the body, wherein the head is coupled to the body via the neck.

1 40. (New) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, further comprising a neck connected to
2 the body, wherein the head is coupled to the body via the neck.